

## **Arizona State Retirement System**

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## News Release

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## ASRS releases 54th Annual Report

The Arizona State Retirement System is pleased to release its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year 2006-07. The 134-page report provides detailed information on finances, investments, actuarial data and general statistics of the agency. The report shows for the first time that the ASRS reached a memership total of more than a half-million.

Outside auditors charged with reviewing the report confirmed that the agency is operating efficiently and up to industry standards, as no findings or recommendations to the ASRS regarding its internal controls, accounting, administrative or operating processes were warranted, they noted.

The report meets the standards and requirements for reporting as set forth by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. ASRS annual reports have received the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the past 18 years. This year's report will again be submitted for the GFOA's Certificate of Achievement.

Statistics in the report reflect the year ended June 30, 2007. They show:

- ➤ ASRS membership totaled a record 523,012, including 83,603 retirees and survivor beneficiaries who are receiving lifelong monthly benefits.
- > The average monthly benefit paid was \$1,584.
- ➤ The ASRS paid out more than \$1.8 billion in benefits to retirees and beneficiaries.
- > The ASRS portfolio totaled more than \$28 billion.
- > The rate of return on the ASRS total fund was 17.8 percent, well above the assumed rate of return of 8 percent.

In keeping with the State of Arizona's emphasis on electronic business and cost savings on printing, a limited number of the books were printed.

To view the entire report, please visit the ASRS website at www.azasrs.gov